

## **Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007 Introducer's Statement of Intent** LB 392

Ray Aguilar **Chairperson:** 

**Committee:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Date of Hearing: February 21, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 392 would amend the sections with Chapter 13 that deal with the creation of a municipal county and would change the process for creating a municipal county when the merger or consolidation is between one or more counties and a city of the metropolitan class. Within thirty days following the passage of a joint resolution or receipt of a petition, the governing bodies of the county and the city involved shall create an interjurisdictional planning commission. This commission would be made up of seven members: two chosen by the county, two chosen by the city, and the final three chosen by the first four members jointly.

The commission would create a plan of merger that specifies, among other things, that the executive and legislative functions of the county and the city shall be merged, with an elected mayor who shall be the chief executive officer of the municipal county, and a municipal county council of eleven members. The plan would also state the elected offices, if any, that will be eliminated upon creation of the municipal county and that upon creation of the municipal county, the municipal county council shall have the power to eliminate any offices within the municipal county, other than the office of mayor of the municipal county

The municipal county can levy within the general tax and service district up to forty-five cents per one hundred dollars of taxable value, not including bonded indebtedness, and can levy within the urban tax and service district an additional levy of up to forty-five cents per one hundred dollars of taxable value, not including bonded indebtedness, however, the levies of these two districts combined cannot total more than ninety cents per one hundred dollars of taxable value.

A municipal county is created following a primary, general, or special election held within the county or counties involved and in which registered voters within the boundaries of the proposed municipal county are entitled to vote on such question. The vote shall be tabulated separately for:

- 1. All those voting on the question;
- 2. Those voting who reside in each county and any municipality which would be merged or consolidated into the proposed municipal county; and
- 3. Those voting who reside in each county the proposed municipal county but outside any municipality.

The proposal to form the municipal county shall be approved if (i) a majority of those voting
who reside in each municipality proposed to be merged or consolidated into the municipal
county and (ii) a majority of those voting who reside in areas of the county or counties to be
nerged or consolidated which are outside the boundaries of such municipality or municipalities
vote to approve the merger or consolidation.

Principal Introducer:		
	<b>Senator Mick Mines</b>	